

I would like to address my comments mainly to the issue of Township roads and extra voted road millage as I believe that is the number one reason why the Village to City Incorporation got started and the reason we are now at this public hearing today. In June 2006 the Township Board had a special meeting with the City Study Committee at which time the Township Board was given an ultimatum that stated: If the Township Board would agree to reimburse to the Village all the money that the Village taxpayers pay toward Township Road Tax they would not proceed with the petition to incorporate as a city.

To make sure everyone understands I want to remind you that General Fund millage is allocated by law for Townships. Any and all millages for other funds such as roads, emergency services, library, and so forth must be voted on by the people. A special fund millage can not be levied unless it is approved by the voters.

A little history of the Road Millage in Sebewaing Township shows that the total millage in effect in 1980 was 2 mills. November 1980 happens to be the date that I first became involved in Township Government. During those first years the township maintained the roads and did some limited new construction. The first project I was involved in was the new construction on Wildner Road right here adjacent to the school parking lot. I am sure that the School Board and Administration appreciates the quality of the township roads as I remember some roads that would become impassable for the school buses during the spring thaw. As the years passed the township board was receiving petitions from property owners to have new roads constructed. In 1996 the Township decided to become more aggressive in constructing new roads and put a new millage request on the August Election asking for a 2 mill increase for roads. Surprising to some people the millage request was passed easily by the voters. Since the 2 mill increase the township has constructed 15 miles of new roads. We still have several miles of roads where the property owners have petitioned for new construction and several miles that the township would like to do for traffic flow. The 2 mills that were in effect in 1980 were always renewed by the voters. The 2 mills that started in 1996 were put on the ballot in the August 2006 Election asking for a renewal and again the voters passed the request by a vote of approximately 59 % yes to 41 % no.

With the Village having approximately 2/3 of the registered voters I would think that they could have easily defeated the millage vote if that is what they desired to do. It is rather clear that the people have spoken at the ballot box. I believe that the City Study Committee has not been hearing the voice of the people.

At the March 2008 meeting of the Township Board it was decided not to ask for a renewal of 1 mill which expired this year.

Because of the way the people of the Community (Village and Township) have spoken at the ballot box over the years I believe that you the Boundary Commission for the State of Michigan are compelled to deny the Petition for the Village of Sebewaing to Incorporate as a City.

I could talk more about discussion on road millage with Village Council Members but I believe I have shown you that road millage is the issue.

Willet Oeschger
Sebewaing Township Supervisor

September 5, 2008

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RECEIVED
DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEP - 8 2008

State Boundary Commission
Re: Docket # 08-1-1
Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth
PO Box 30704
Lansing MI 48909

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

RE: Docket #08-1-1
Proposed incorporation of the Village of Sebewaing

To Whom It May Concern:

In 1992, my husband and I made a major life decision to sell our Sebewaing Township home we built in 1962 and build again in wooded Hickory Grove subdivision also located in rural Sebewaing Township. We truly enjoy the rural lifestyle. We can look out our back windows and view deer and other wildlife as well as the open fields so dear to our farmer hearts. We can also look south across a thirty acre field and see Myers Road, and wonder why this should ever be considered as a part of the village of Sebewaing!

The history of this subdivision goes back beyond the 1970's when an older gentlemen farmer by the name of Mr. Arnold Neuman decided to develop his wooded acreage to accommodate individuals inquiring about purchasing property in this location. At this point in time, the village of Sebewaing was not interested in helping in any way. He then embarked on the project by himself personally funding all. The village gave him direction on the depth to place the sewer which turned out to be inaccurate. The sewer line was too low and required a "lift station" to connect to Sebewaing sewer lines. This turned out to be a costly mistake for the residents of Hickory Grove as we have to fund the station and pay for daily checking of it as well as our expanded sewer rate.

Seemingly, the time to acquire Hickory Grove was then. But the village forefathers only saw dollars needed to install the infrastructure. Now after Mr. Neuman did it all by himself, the village of Sebewaing is again looking to the south as they have times before. It is only to their benefit to acquire the forty some higher valued homes in Hickory Grove to finance their village government and related services. And what are they offering in return? No talk of sidewalks, curbs, gutters, street lights, etc, to be on a par with other village streets because that would cost dollars.

What are the merits of becoming a city? What about the additional expenses. Who will fund a city manager, office, and staff? Have the residents of the village been made totally aware of these additional expenses? Or have they only been told their taxes will go down because they don't have to pay township taxes. Have they been told they will have to pay a greater share of the intergovernmental services – namely ambulance, fire, and library?

Facts presented at the 9/4/08 hearing show a wide discrepancy of figures leaving everyone wondering "who do we believe?"

Suggestion: If they wish their taxes to go down, why don't they dissolve their village government and be ruled by a township board as we are. (Clinton Township, Shelby Township to name only two.)

As a retired postmaster who spent many working years engaged in mail deliver to both village and rural Sebewaing, I know first hand how the government handles overloaded operating expenses and shrinking revenue. They do more with less. More work is thrown on its employees, revenue cutbacks are mandatory, and a hiring freeze is imposed. This seemingly does not apply to this village government or their employees.

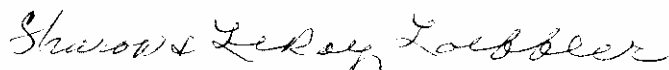
As a retired automaker, my husband knows what benefit cutbacks are all about. And together we both feel the pinch of higher taxes, higher fuel costs, high cost of living expenses, with absolutely no return on our hard earned investments.

We do not need to fund a city government run by locals without the educational background to do so nor the gumption to stand up and be accountable for their actions.. They don't even want to hire a city manager who would presumably have the knowledge and expertise that is so much needed in a town struggling the way Sebewaing is. Neither the council nor the city committee would stand up and take responsibility for initiating these city proceedings. They have discontinued publishing village council proceedings in the local paper saying it is too costly and instead post them up in their chambers for all to come in and read. Who does that? It sounds very clandestine to me.

Neither I nor the many retired residents of Hickory Grove, nor the younger working families, nor the owners of the eight vacant properties on the market but not selling, want to become part of the village of Sebewaing. We are very content with our status quo.

Please, State Boundary Commission, reject all plans for enlarging the village as being poorly planned, poorly informed, and poorly thought through. And please, insist the council inform all Sebewaing residents as to what they are up to. We were informed by letter on July 22 from your commission. We have relatives in the village who know nothing. No mass mailing was done, no notice of a meeting to anyone. A few handouts were passed around but where were the villagers of Sebewaing at this vital meeting? All need to be made aware of what their village council is up to.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon & LeRoy Loeffler
682 Hickory Court
Sebewaing, MI 48759-1413

September 4, 2008

Department of Labor and Economic Growth
State Boundaries Commission
Bureau of Construction Codes
P. O. Box 30704
Lansing, Mi 48909

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEP 10 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Re: Docket #08-I-1

Dear Sir:

I just attended the public hearing on this matter in Sebewaing and remain just as confused as I was before I received your notice of the hearing. I am a resident of Sebewaing township and specifically of Hickory Court which you supposedly propose to annex to the city in order to square up the city limits.

I believe the meeting tonight was a clear indication of what the problem is. To this date we have not had anybody from the city or the evaluating committee explain the genesis of the idea to become a city, what the committee looked at to evaluate the idea or what they found the pros and cons to be, and what led them to recommend proceeding. Nobody has made any effort to seek support from the effective areas outside the village. This gives the appearance that they are willing to sit back and let a commission from Lansing "force" a new tax base into their city.

This procedure is new to me but frankly I was surprised at how disjointed the presentation was. They are still unable to tell me what an additional 17 mills of property taxes will get me in the way of services. It appears that my tax increase will allow them to decrease their taxes and be a losing proposition for me as I will lose the library I pay for and the emergency services which the city will have to renegotiate for.

This is a terrible time for the entire area with businesses and families fleeing

town. People are desperate but to think that becoming a city will save a dying town is misplaced hope. To have the mayor of the city speak about a plant closing when the issue is whether the village should become a city is an unfortunate example of how the issue being discussed is never addressed., and any attempt to get information is generally met with hostility and seen as questioning their good judgment and leads to lack of information.

We chose not to live in the village and we wish to continue as residents of the township. I'm hoping that your experience in these matters assures that they not get to proceed with this procedure while they continue to search for answers that don't confirm the township supervisor's assessment that this started over the refusal of the township to give the village a 1 mill kickback for them to use on the village roads as they saw fit. I notice that that Ms. Schweitzer a member of the village to city committee did not deny the conversation her only assertion was that it was not an ultimatum. I believe the disjointed presentation by the city shows the lack of insight into the problems for example they don't plan for a city manage because all their department heads are so good. Who will be in charge, who will settle differences between department heads, what about in the future when all department heads are not "strong" or oppose the council's direction? The committee also cited the township's refusal to pay for the city police, as township residents we have to call the sheriff or 911 for assistance, the fact that they dispatch Sebewaing police is a matter the village should take up with the Sheriff as he is responsible for coverage of the county. I think this shows another incident where the village is seeking redress in the wrong direction. It seems patently unfair that they are able to use a state commission to try and force the rest of us into this what is at minimum a poorly articulated decision to proceed with a plan to become a city..

I hope you are able to stop this procedure before it goes any further. Unfortunately we cannot save them from themselves but we shouldn't be forced into a situation where we are the source of income to keep their plan a float. I agree with many at the meeting that an effort should be made to resolve the issue of the roads or what ever by talking and negotiating. Unfortunately the village council has no incentive to participate as they can hold the threat of city hood knowing that the commission must "square up" the map which forces them to take some of the township tax base without a vote by the people being taken over.

Again I ask you to stop this plan now. It seems to me that a denial could be made on the lack of information presented by the village and the inadequacy of the information provided.

Sincerely,

Brenda Ballard

613 E. Hickory Court
Sebewaing, MI 48759

September 5, 2008

Department of Labor and Economic Growth
State Boundaries Commission
Bureau of Construction Codes
P. O. Box 30704
Lansing, Mi 48909

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEP 10 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Re: Docket #08-I-1

Dear Sir:

I am a resident of Sebewaing township and specifically of Hickory Court which you propose to annex to the city in order to square up the city limits.

Unfortunately you have opened a hornet's nest when you proposed annexation of Hickory Court. To assume the village had no idea of the need to square up boarders when the request was made is difficult to believe but it appears that the annexation they could not get of this property by vote of the citizens in the township or the effected areas will be accomplished by the process of becoming a city '

In terms of "Squaring up" the boarders because Hickory court is the jagged part south of Bay street. Perhaps the commission should look at the property of the city south of Bay Street which was annexed about 10 years ago by the city as this was going to have condominiums built there. The sign went up and to this date not a single building has been built. Since this remains farm land now in the city perhaps a more fair solution of the squaring up process would be to require the farm land to come back to the township and leave farming out of the city leaving south of Bay street in the township.

I also found it interesting that when former mayor Adams spoke last night he indicated that he had started the process to city hood over 10 years ago , Perhaps it's not so odd that the city stopped city hood pursuit and annexed farm land giving them an irregular boarder that the commission would have to correct on a future application. Mr. Adams is right we did file a lawsuit

when the village refused to share their reasoning and process in deciding the amount to be billed to Hickory Court for water and sewer. Once again a search for information was seen as questioning their judgment and further steps were needed to get information

I chose to live in the township as it provided the services I wanted and the increased 17 mills in the village for the only benefit of having my lawn waste and leaves picked up by the city was too expensive of a proposition.

Once again I ask you to reject the request to proceed with city hood. I believe we should all try and work towards a resolution of the problems but fear we will not be able to do this when one side has devised a way to use the procedure to reach their desire that was denied them 10 years ago. Some village residents report that the committee members have said that city hood will finally force "Hickory Grove" to pay their fair share of the city expenses. It seems ironic that the selling point to the village has been the mandated decision of the commission not a stated reason for the city drive. I am convinced this is why the village attorney and the committee members could or would not state the reason for city hood even when urged by a commission member to be more candid and all they could say is we got information from the Municipal League. It would also explain how their proposal does not show hiring a new city manager or renegotiating for library and emergency services as they have to pretend to show that city hood would lead to a reduction of taxes in the city which they cannot do unless they count the new tax revenue from the forced annexation. I do not think we should have to pay to keep the plan for city hood afloat.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bev Dulland".

613 E. Hickory Court
Sebewaing, Mi 48759

September 8, 2008

State Boundary Commission

RE: Docket #08-1-1

Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth

P.O. Box 30704

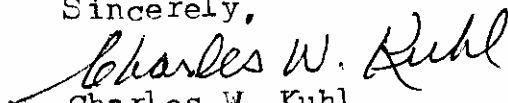
Lansing, Michigan 48909

A meeting was held in Sebewaing, Mi, September 4.

Listening to presentations, I came to conclusion, we should not extend Boundary, for the proposal of Sebewaing to become a city.

In these economic times, we should remain, Village of Sebewaing and of, Sebewaing Township, sharing mutually in Taxation and Expenditure.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Kuhl
486 9th St.

Sebewaing, Michigan 48759

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEP 10 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

September 9, 2008

State Boundary Commission
Re: Docket # 08-1-1
Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth
P. O. Box 30704
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Concerned Hickory Ct. Taxpayer,

We are writing to share our feelings and concern. Thirtytwo years ago we decided to move closer to work which was Sebewaing. We purchased two lots in the village. A year later we changed our mind about living in the village. We had two small children we choose to purchase a lot in Hickory Ct. and sell the other two lots and get out of the village. We were very happy that we made the change. We are a home owner in Hickory Ct. for 30 years.

The statement that was made about us Hickory Ct. people that we only pay 1.5 times more than the village people pay for the sewer is incorrect. The village people pay a flat fee of \$22.00 monthly. Well we are (2) people in household and our last month sewer bill was \$63.40. That adds

like almost 3-times what the village people pay. Plus we pay a higher rate for water and electric service. Was said we don't pay for the sewer pump. Well there are 41 homes in Hickory Ct. But I'll only take 35 homes times \$60.00 equals \$2,100.00 monthly. Than take \$2,100.00 times 12 months equals \$25,200.00 yearly. This money should be in a separate account. This money is for our sewer pump to be maintained or repairs when needed. All of us Hickory Ct. home owners pay this money monthly, so why is there no money in this account. Please check where all this money is being used. FIGURES MOVED AROUND SAID AT MEETING? We the Hickory Ct. people are very happy as we are, the village just needs to leave us alone. THEY JUST WANT OUR TAX MONEY that is plain to see. If Sebewaing is to grow they need to let businesses come in. We had a number of stores close in the past year and now the factory. This hurts the village. The village needs to spend time on getting work back in town and put this CITY thing on hold. Also leave the other land owners alone as we are and not make the people upset and angry. That is not good for the community we are too small for this upset feeling. We were told that Mr. Lloyd Adams is selling his house as he wants out of the village as he can't afford the village taxes.

We are all happy as we are PLEASE LEAVE US HICKORY CT., PEOPLE ALONE.

A TAX PAYER AND HICKORY CT. HOME OWNER

Ernest E. Sbresny Jr.

Arlene Sbresny

Ernest E Sbresny Jr & Arlene Sbresny
681 Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, Michigan 48759

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SEP 12 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Holmes, Christine A (DLEG)

12

From: JGuillett [jguillett@sebewaing.net]
Sent: Saturday, September 13, 2008 6:10 PM
To: Holmes, Christine A (DLEG)
Subject: Docket # 08-I-1

State Boundary Commission

I am a resident of Sebewaing township. I live in area A part of what you want to annex.. I am opposed to this.. 15 years ago they annnexed McDonalds to the village I live right beside them why didn't they annex us then.. Fifty some years ago when they hooked the city water up for my parents why wasn't it annexed then..

I cannot afford to pay any higher taxes.. Every year my assessment goes up and so do my taxes. I will also have to pay for a sewer that I cannot use.. Both sides made a good statement but to think that taxes are not going up is a pipe dream by duplicating services it has to go up .

We need to get some businesses in the area before going foward with this idea. The village and the township need to work together to bring jobs and businesses to the area.. I do not see where annexing this land is going to help this idea along..

Thank you for giving me a chance to express my views..

Jane Guillett
530 E. Bay St.
Sebewaing, Mi 48759

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DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEP 15 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

9/15/2008

September 4, 2008

13

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State of Michigan
Department of Labor & Economic Growth
Bureau of Construction Codes
P.O. Box 30704
Lansing, Michigan 48909

SEP 15 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

RE: DOCKET #08-1-1
PROPOSED INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING #08-1-1
INTO A HOME RULE CITY
ATT: Christine A. Holmes, Commission Specialist
State Boundary Commission

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We are residents and property owners in the Hickory Grove Subdivision, of the proposed expanded territory in section 17 of Sebewaing Township area A, located north of Meyers road, south of East Bay Street, and West of M25.

We built our home in Hickory Grove Subdivision in 1970 and have been residents of Sebewaing Township since that time. We are strongly opposed to the annexation and land grab. We feel that if certain individuals of the Village of Sebewaing want to become a city, they should do so on their own, without grabbing land simply because of the tax base that has been developed and paid for by the property owners of the Hickory Grove Subdivision.

We built here because we wanted to live in Sebewaing Township, but not the Village of Sebewaing, and certainly not the "City of Sebewaing."

Prior to 1970 when the Hickory Grove Subdivision was in the planning stage, and before the Village of Sebewaing had a sanitary sewer system, the developer went to the Sebewaing Village Council to see if they would provide utilities to the subdivision. The developer was informed that they could have utilities, but he would have to install and pay for all costs, because the subdivision was not a part of the Village of Sebewaing.

This included storm sewers, catch basins, water and sanitary sewer mains, with leads going to each property lot in the subdivision. A sanitary sewer pumping station was also required because the Village of Sebewaing would not change their plans to lower their main sewer sanitary sewer line on Bay Street, even before it was installed in the Village of Sebewaing. They informed him they were not making any plans for anyone outside the Village of Sebewaing Village limits.

The road base was also installed and paid for by the developer of Hickory Grove Subdivision, who then passed those costs on to the property owners, we paid for everything. This was done so that Hickory Grove Subdivision would never become a part of the Village of Sebewaing. Now that forty homes are built, and the tax base has increased substantially, they want us for our tax base so they can get their City status.

This area is not a growing community; the jobs just aren't here, with more manufacturing jobs closing in the coming months. With high taxes, and a large number of homes for sale in the Village of Sebewaing. Hickory Grove Subdivision has forty homes, with eight homes for sale. People have dropped the price way below market price, and they still don't sell, mainly because of high taxes, and no jobs. The population in this area has continued to decline in the past years, and they are predicting a further decline. The downtown area continues to close stores, and the new marina rents very few boat slips out, while other area marinas are nearly full.

There are approximately twelve and a half acres adjacent to the West Side of Hickory Grove Subdivision that was annexed to the Village of Sebewaing approximately ten years ago. The developer wanted utilities from the Village of Sebewaing, with plans to build condominiums to be sold. So far, this has not happened, and the land continues to be used to grow farm crops. The last I heard, the developer wants to move it back into Sebewaing Township because of the high cost of the Village of Sebewaing taxes.

The Village of Sebewaing has another subdivision that was developed by the previous mayor some years ago. It sits near empty, with two homes sold, and one, which was never sold.

The businessmen along M25, South of town, had their properties annexed to the Village of Sebewaing so they could have water and sanitary sewer mains extended to their properties.

The previous mayor started the desire for the Village of Sebewaing to annex Hickory Grove Subdivision. A past Council member stated that they would annex us, so that they could have Home Rule City status, and we would have nothing whatsoever to say on the matter.

Yes, we do receive our utilities from the Village of Sebewaing, but we pay higher rates than the residents of the Village of Sebewaing do. We have complained about the high water, sanitary sewer and sur-charge we have to pay each month. This did no good, the previous mayor just said, "This could be eliminated if we would just join the Village of Sebewaing with annexation. We strongly opposed this and with the high utility cost would rather stay in the township than pay a village tax on top of the taxes we already pay.

We pay the highest taxes in Huron County now, and have no desire to pay a City of Sebewaing property tax on top of our already high property taxes. The Village of Sebewaing City Committee is not stating the true costs involved in this Home Rule City to the Village residents. They say it will decrease taxes, when in most cases will raise their/our taxes substantially. There will be numerous hidden costs of being a city that they are not reporting to their residents. Also, the loss of revenue to Sebewaing Township would increase taxes for property owners, and they would have no vote on the matter.

In 2006, the Sebewaing Village Council recommended NO change in the existing Village boundaries. Now the State of Michigan Boundary Commission wants to change the boundaries. This change would not be good for the people in the proposed area; we do not want this, and feel it should remain the same. It is not fair to single us out, and not include the rest of the property owners along Bay Street, West of Hickory Grove Subdivision. Also, the Northeast side of the Village of Sebewaing along East Street and Dodge Court, who also get their utilities from the Village of Sebewaing. On the East Side of M25 the proposed boundaries would divide Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, with the Church in the township, and the School in the village.

This is one request we wish that you would please turn down. Many of the property owners are retired and live on a fixed income. They do not want a change. This would not be good for the State of Michigan to make a decision that would cause further hard feelings among the village and township people involved.

Also families in the proposed expanded area with children going to school would no longer be picked up by the school bus, which would create a hardship for those parents. Most of the proposed area is farmland, with no plans for future residential development.

Thank you for reading this letter. SINCERELY,

PAUL STRIETER



DIANE STRIETER



670 WEST HICKORY
SEBEWAING, MICHIGAN 48759

September 4, 2008

I would like to express my opposition regarding the incorporation process. I am 92 yrs. old and believe you would be creating lots of new problems and expenses.

I appreciate the attention you have given this letter.

Sincerely,

Walter C Roemer
624 E. Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, Mich. 48759

(Re. Docket #08-1-1)



Walter C. Roemer
624 Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, MI 48759-1413

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEP 15 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Verburg,

Re. Nocket # 08-1-1

We are writing in opposition of creating an expensive new City and hope the incorporation process can come to an end before more public money is spent.

We find it hard to fathom that the voters would be in agreement of the issue. Doing so would only divide the Village from the Township and create many unforeseen problems and expenses. Why try and fix something that doesn't need it? It seems like we need to concentrate on growth before we ever consider moving forward with this matter.

We urge you to reconsider and we thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Rink
Janet Rink
623 E. Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, Mich. 48759

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SEP 15 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

State of Michigan
Dept. of Labor & Economic Growth
Bureau of Construction Codes
P.O. Box 30704
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Re: Docket # 08-1-1
Proposed Incorporation of the Village of Sebewaing #08-1-1
into a Home Rule City

ATT: Christine A. Holmes, Comm. Specialist
State Boundary Comm.

To Whom it May Concern

We are residents and property owners of Hickory Court subdivision and have lived here for 30 years.

We built our home in the township because we did not want to live in the village. We enjoy the woods, peace and quiet.

We are not in favor of Sebewaing becoming a city and annexing this property. We are retired and on a fixed income. We cannot afford any additional taxes. We feel that our taxes would increase if Sebewaing became a city. We are already paying more for sewer, light & water than the village.

Another reason we oppose it is because they will be taking in a lot of farmland, which is not fair to the landowner.

This is a depressed area and there are already a number of homes in Hickory Court for sale that may never be sold, especially if our taxes go up.

Therefore, we hope that you would please turn this request down.

Sincerely

Wm. Weidner

William Weidner

Marilyn Weidner
644 E. Hickory Court
Sebewaing, Mi. 48759

Marilyn Weidner

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DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEP 15 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Sebewaing..., Michigan
September 11, 2008

17

State Boundary Commission,
To whom it may concern.

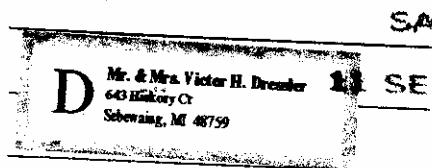
I purchased my home in Hickory Court in the Township of Sebewaing over 20 years ago because it was not in the Village I like the quite of the country living. I feel that becoming a part of a city will raise my taxes as I am on a fixed income. I am opposed to being annexed to the village. Please consider this when voting to change the boundary lines.

Beverly Dressler

Beverly Dressler

Victor Dressler

Victor Dressler



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SEP 15 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

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SEP 17 2008

DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

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State Boundary Comm;

In regard to Docket #08-1-1

Proposed Incorporation of Sebewaing.

I couldn't attend the meeting as I was in the hospital getting my pacemaker replaced. My wife + I are definitely opposed to the incorporation to the village. We are 79 yrs of age and don't need an increase on our taxes. We don't have many good yrs left so we would like to spend them here. We have at least 6 houses in the court for sale that aren't selling. People will build outside the area for less taxes. We can't sell our house for what it's assessed so please leave us stay here. With everything going up we don't need anymore tax.

Thank you

Elmo Treiber



Mr. Elmo Treiber
630 Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, MI 48759-1413

September 15, 2008

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SEP 17 2008

State Boundary Commission

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Re: Docket # 08-1-1

E BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth

PO Box 30704

Lansing MI 48909

RE: Docket #08-1-1

Proposed incorporation of the Village of Sebewaing

To Whom It May Concern:

Twenty-seven years ago my husband and I decided to move from our farm in rural Sebewaing Township into Hickory Grove subdivision which is also in Sebewaing Township.

As farmers, we wanted to retain our rural lifestyle by purchasing our lot from Mr. Arnold Neuman. Mr. Neuman had developed this subdivision into a very nice place to live using his own funds to do so. The village of Sebewaing was not interested in incorporating the subdivision into the village at that time.

I am distressed to hear that the village of Sebewaing again is pursuing annexing Hickory Grove into the village. As a senior citizen, I enjoy things the way they are. Also as a senior citizen and now a widow living on a fixed income, I cannot afford to pay more taxes to the village along with the high cost of living expenses we have no choice but to swallow up.

I attended the September 4, 2008, Boundary Commission meeting and agree wholeheartedly with the sentiment expressed by others when they said "If it's not broke, don't fix it."

Please, State Boundary Commission, throw out all proposals and keep things the way they are.

Respectfully,

(Mrs.) Vernita Currey
653 E. Hickory
Sebewaing Michigan 48759

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SEP 19 2008

665 Hickory Ct
Sebewaing, Mi 48759
Sept. 16, 08

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

State Boundary Commission
MI Department of Labor & Economic Growth
PO Box 30704
Lansing, MI 48909

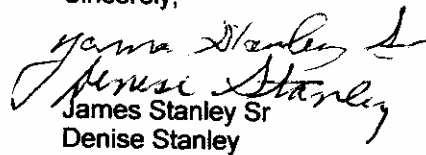
To whom this may concern;

This is in regard to annexing the Hickory Ct subdivision to the village of Sebewaing and becoming a city.

We are concerned homeowners at 665 Hickory Ct and adjacent property and sincerely hope the decision to annex does not happen. There are many reasons too numerous to elaborate but mainly because of the discord amongst the citizens of Sebewaing that would arise. The town does not need this at these difficult times.

This should have been considered when the subdivision was first developed back in the early 70's.

Sincerely,


James Stanley Sr
Denise Stanley

21

September 16, 2008

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SEP 19 2008

State Boundary Commission
Re: Docket # 08-I-1
Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth
PO Box 30704
Lansing MI 48909

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

RE: Docket #08-1-1
Proposed incorporation of the Village of Sebewaing

Ladies and Gentlemen of the State Boundary Commission:

I am writing to express my feelings regarding the boundary change of the village of Sebewaing to include Hickory Grove subdivision.

Thirteen years ago, I moved from my farm after my husband passed away and built a new home in Hickory Grove. My farm was in Sebewaing Township and I wished to live in Sebewaing Township and not the village of Sebewaing.

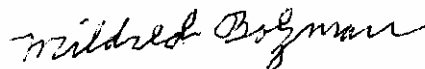
As a senior citizen living on a fixed income, I have no choice but to pay the higher sewer rates imposed by the village of Sebewaing on Hickory Grove residents. I also do not wish to pay the higher tax rate annexation will impose upon me.

This situation is dividing the village people against the township people. This should not happen in a small community like Sebewaing. We all got along fine before and we wish to have it remain as is.

Let's keep things the way they are.

Very truly yours

(Mrs.) Mildred Bolzman
634 E. Hickory
Sebewaing, MI 48759



In regards to the expanding
State Boundary Commission
in Section 17 of Sub Township
Area A - that is located north
of Myers Rd - south of E. Bay St.
& west of 25 - my comments are:

I am definitely not in
favor of this proposal. I
live on Myers Rd., am a
Sr. Citizen & live on a fixed
income. Do not think it
would be of any benefit
to me.

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SEP 26 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Dorrence Lihen
11850 Myers Rd.
Jebensburg, Me
48759

Ms. Florence Lihen
11850 Myers Rd.
Jebensburg, MI 48759

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SEP 26 2008

Sept. 20, 2008

23

Neil J. Gaeth
684 W. Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, MI 48759

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

RE: Docket *08-I-1
Proposed Incorporation of the Village of Sebewaing
Into a Home Rule City

State Boundary Commission,

This letter is to express our opposition to the proposed annexation of Hickory Court and other surrounding areas to the Village of Sebewaing, Michigan.

We purchased our home in Hickory Ct. approximately 15 years ago. One of the reasons for purchase was that it was not inside the village boundaries. Our subdivision was established as its own entity and we wish to remain that way.

As the Boundary Commission observed at the public hearing on September 4, 2008, this whole ordeal stems from a feud between the Sebewaing village officials, Sebewaing Township, and property owners in Hickory Court.

The Village of Sebewaing recently bought and renovated a storefront in the business district for a municipal office at a cost of over \$300,000, while one block away stands a recently built Township hall which could have been rented for their meeting. Had the village amended their feud with the township, this would not have been an issue. It's true that public services in the village are exemplary, however, any business will tell you that in times of economic hardship you must reduce overhead rather than raise prices.

We hope that the boundary committee took some time to personally examine the status of our village. It has been hit harder than most communities by the current economic recession. The second largest employer in Sebewaing, Lapeer Metal Stamping, is closing its doors. Several other family owned businesses are months away from closing.

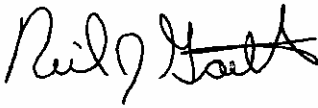
The idea that Sebewaing needs room to expand in order to show that it warrants becoming a city is ridiculous. Fifty percent of the downtown businesses are closed. There are nearly one hundred homes for sale in the village limits.

Furthermore, we do not believe that the proposed boundaries for the annexation were thoroughly investigated. The idea that Immanuel Lutheran Church and its school are to be separated by the village limits only shows that the proper foresight was not given to this proposal.

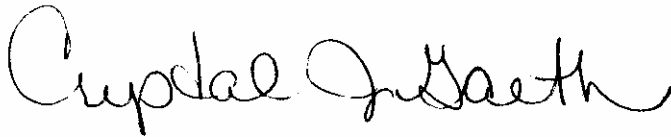
As with most issues, this one comes down to money. Taxes will obviously increase for property owners in the proposed annexed areas. Most of these people are retired citizens who are on a fixed income. No one, especially these people, need added tax burdens at this time.

In these times of economic hardship, We urge the commission not to change the boundaries of Sebewaing, nor grant their petition for city status.

Sincerely,



Neil J. Gaeth



Crystal Gaeth



Crystal J. Gaeth
684 Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, MI 48759-1413

Sept. 29, 2008

Dept of Labor & Economic Growth
State Boundary Commission
Bureau of Construction Codes
P.O. Box 30704
Lansing, MI 48909

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SEP 30 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

RE: Docket #08-I-01

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing in response to the proposed expanded area change if the Village of Sebewaing becomes a City. We live in Hickory Court (Section A) with about 40 other homes that are in Sebewaing Township. We would like to stay in Sebewaing Township and not be included into the new city plan. We would only gain a large increase in taxes and loose benefits for our family. We have 4 children that currently use the front door school bus service to & from school each day. This service is very important service that would be taken away if we would be brought into the new city plan.

Please DO NOT INCLUDE SECTION A or B into the city of Sebewaing. If Sebewaing wants to become a city please use the current village limits as the City Committee had proposed to the State of Michigan.

We feel that it would be fair if the taxpayers of the proposed expanded area A & B could vote and voice their opinion if they would want to move into the new city. Out of the taxpayers that were at the meeting on Sept. 4th 2008—90% of the people were from the proposed expanded area. None of these people want to be part of the city.

We purchased our home December 2007, knowing that it was in Sebewaing Township. We did not want to live in the village limits. We don't want to be forced into being part of the city of Sebewaing.

Please consider using the current village boundaries in proceeding forward for the proposed city of Sebewaing. That would be much more beneficial to our family and all the retired people in Hickory Court.

We do agree with same conclusion as the State Boundary Commission that the Village of Sebewaing & Sebewaing Township should work out their differences. Please discard the proposed idea of Sebewaing becoming a City. Mr. Walt Rummel, 90 year old wise man said it best that everyone should just get along. We feel that if Sebewaing becomes a city the people of Sebewaing will become more divided. This will benefit no one.

Sincerely,

Dean Kuhl
Beth Kuhl
654 E. Hickory Ct.
Sebewaing, MI 48759

Holmes, Christine A (DLEG)

25 -

From: Joanne Brooks [jebrooks_foc@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2008 12:48 PM
To: Holmes, Christine A (DLEG)
Subject: Docket #08-I-1 - Village of Sebewaing

Dear Members of the State Boundary Commission,

I would like to inform you that I am in favor of the petition filed by the Village of Sebewaing to become incorporated as a home rule city. Also, I am greatly in favor of the proposed boundary expansion, in particular, Hickory Court. At the public hearing, the residents of Hickory Court voiced their opinion against annexation. This subdivision in Sebewaing receives the same services as the residents of the Village of Sebewaing but they don't feel they should have to pay for these benefits. In fact, several years ago the residents of Hickory Court sued the Village over lift station charges (this lift station only serves Hickory Court) and lost. They filed an appeal and lost this also. I believe it's time that ALL those who receive village benefits be responsible for the costs.

Joanne Brooks
Resident, Village of Sebewaing

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SEP 30 2008

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION